

2004 Economic Impact Statement

NEWS  
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ORI countdown:  
69 days

A lot goes on behind the scenes to mobilize military forces.

When units receive a tasking, the unit deployment manager ensures deployment eligibility. The UDM matches the personnel Air Force Specialty Code to the unit type code tasking. Once matched, the UDM uses the personnel deployment processing checklist to ensure people meet requirements for deployment. Items on the checklist include stops to legal, finance, family support, immunizations, and force health management. The unit ensures the Deployment Requirements Manning Document is signed by the unit commander before people process. If a change is needed because the unit can't fill a tasking, then the unit submits a shortfall request to the Installation Deployment Officer.

Once the UTC has been filled and the unit is ready to process, the UDM ensures the appropriate weapons and ammunition are signed for and distributed. The deploying members receive initial issue of personal protective equipment and chemical warfare ensemble. After receiving their mobility bag issue, the deploying people process through the Personnel Deployment Function processing line. The PDF line is not established for personnel to use solely as a means to initiate or complete individual processing. The PDF line is set up to assist in last minute substitutions, changes or extenuating circumstances. Once people have processed through the PDF line, they are manifested and moved to a controlled area until boarding the aircraft. During that waiting period, a couple of mandatory briefings (Intelligence and Religious Sensitivity) are provided.

— By Maj. Jerame Cohen, 78th LRS

Sen. Chambliss set to speak at O Club

Sen. Saxby Chambliss will address the members of the Air Force Association and Reserve Officers Association March 15 at the Officers' Club. Members are encouraged to attend and can make reservations by calling Ms. Jeane Paris at 926-6549 or e-mailing jeane.paris@robins.af.mil. Lunch is \$12. Credit card and payment information will be needed at the time of reservation. The luncheon starts at 11:45 a.m., but members are asked to be at the club and in their seat by 11:30. Reservations must be received by 3 p.m. Thursday.

— From staff reports

# ROBINS RevUp

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Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

## Robins gets \$36M for C-17 work

By Ms. Lanorris Askew  
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The Warner Robins Air Logistics Center has been slated to receive approximately \$36 million over the next five years to expand the capacity

for C-17 Globemaster III workload here.

The money comes as part of a \$99.5 million dissemination of Air Force funds. According to Robins officials, the funds will be used to purchase capital equipment and related activa-

tion resources to support the C-17.

The Air Force and Boeing have also reached a precedent-setting agreement for Boeing to make a \$62 million investment over five years in activating repair workloads at the three air

logistics centers.

The lion's share of Robins' \$36 million will be used for avionic components with the remaining funds covering additional airframe infrastructure.

"The commitments we have

right now are primarily in avionics," said Mr. Dave Silva, C-17 System Support Management deputy chief. "We will be making investments in the technical repair

Please see **C-17, 2A**

## 100 percent ID checks mandated



U.S. Air Force photos by Ms. Sue Sapp

Headquarters Air Force has directed 100 percent ID checks at all Air Force, Air Force Reserve Command and Air National Guard installations effective immediately. The reason is to establish a long-term baseline security policy to protect Air Force personnel and operations. Robins should expect variability in base security measures in response to changing force protection conditions.

Above, Airman 1st Class Darryl Mosely, 78th Security Forces Squadron, checks IDs at Gate 2 Thursday afternoon.

Right, Sgt. Malinda Seldon, 1177th Transportation Company from LaGrange, Ga., positions a detour cone outside Gate 2.



## C-5 workload will remain

By Ms. Lanorris Askew  
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According to Mr. Al Fatkin, the Air Force decision to keep C-5 depot maintenance work at Robins was the natural choice, but recent success stories may have helped it along.

One of those success stories was last year's record 23 in '03, where 23 C-5 aircraft were produced from the Center's program depot maintenance line as opposed to the previous year's 17.

The Strategic Airlift Directorate's deputy director said this feat was accomplished as the number of flow days continued to dwindle from 289 per aircraft to the current 213. Decreasing the total depot maintenance overhaul time meant more aircraft availability to the war fighter.

"I give the credit to the entire work force," he said "They all brought us to where we are today."

Approximately 800 people at



U.S. Air Force file photo by Ms. Sue Sapp

Robins will continue to maintain the C-5. About 800 people here are affected by this decision.

Robins are affected by this decision and according to Mr. Fatkin morale is soaring.

"I think their hard work is finally paying off and their heads are held high," he said.

The seven-year contract between Robins and the Air Force for C-5 maintenance was set to expire in September, but with this recent decision to

forgo public-private competition, the work will stay with the Center in organic or in-house status.

Although success stories may be the icing on the cake, Mr. Fatkin said other contributing factors may have had some play in the decision making process.

Please see **C-5, 2A**

## Pay, grade changes on the way for civilians

By Ms. Holly J. Logan  
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

As early as June, a new policy will change how civil service employees climb the corporate ladder.

That policy - the 2004 National Defense Authorization Act - includes changes to civilian pay, overtime and leave.

Mr. Michael O'Hara, Center chief personnel officer, said the policy will change the core aspects of the civilian appraisal and compensation system.

It calls for the implementation of pay bands - grouping grades together - to allow supervisors and managers to recognize the most hard-working individuals by a graduated movement through the pay band system.

"Certainly, the impact will be very apparent and will be the largest change I've been involved in during the 31 years or so that I've worked for the government," Mr. O'Hara said. "There are fundamental changes on the way. It's not a matter of 'if,' it's a matter of 'when.'"

The changes are the first to impact both general schedule and wage grade employees alike. The legislation has launched the National Security Personnel System - the biggest overhaul of the government's civilian personnel system in decades.

In previous reports, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld has called the changes "transformational." And President George Bush has agreed, saying the bill "also advances the vital work of transforming the personnel system for civilian defense workers so we can put the right person in the right job to meet the challenges we face."

Other changes include:

Please see **PAY, 2A**

## Assessment team heads to Robins

A Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command team will assess sexual assault climate, policies and programs at Robins Tuesday in one of 10 such installation visits scheduled for March.

A member or members of the AFMC team will be available to meet privately with individuals by appointment between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Base Chapel conference room, Building 769 across from the Base Theater, to discuss the sexual assault climate and effectiveness of programs.

Those interested should call the Center Inspector General's Office at 926-5111 to schedule an appointment. Depending on the number of people who call, provisions will be made for telephone interviews after the team's two-week round of visits to AFMC installations is completed.

The team will meet during the day with base leadership, first sergeants and others as part of the fact-finding trip. It will also conduct a focus group and community survey.

— From staff reports

**Robins 3-day forecast**  
Courtesy of 78th OSS/OSW

**Today**  
Mostly cloudy with scattered p.m. showers



77/59

**Saturday**  
Morning rain then partly cloudy



74/60

**Sunday**  
Partly cloudy



67/42

**What's inside**

JSTARS receive new aircraft **2A**  
12 Robins Airmen assume another title: U.S. citizens **5A**  
CE sings praises of new alert system **4B**  
Top enlisted chosen for Georgia Air National Guard **8B**



# New to the fleet



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Mary Smith  
A new Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System aircraft was delivered to the 116th Air Control Wing Feb. 26. The 116th ACW now has 16 JSTARS aircraft with the final plane to be delivered approximately one year from now.

## C-17

Continued from 1A

center starting this year and we’ve already done some of that by procuring automatic test equipment that should be delivered this summer.”

Mr. Silva said while the focus will be on avionics, growing airframe work on the C-17 is also a part of the picture. But fewer funds will be invested in airframe work because much can be done with existing resources, and it’s still a priority for this Center.

The SSM deputy said they are buying automatic test equipment to use for C-17 component repair, but as that capability is built, Boeing will come to the three ALCs and contract with them to start the increase of the organic workload on the aircraft.

Although funds are allocated through fiscal year 2008, there are plans to bring more work in beyond that time.

“We could start bringing some software work around fiscal year 2009,” he said.

### Where the C-17 funding goes

The Air Force identified \$99.5 million over five years for purchasing C-17 capital equipment and related activation for the C-17 workload. The three air logistics centers will each receive a portion. \$21M to Ogden Air Logistics Center, at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, \$36M to Warner Robins Air Logistics Center and \$37M to Oklahoma City, air logistics center at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., with the remainder going to Boeing for activation support. The fiscal 2004 funds are called Air Force Materiel Command Transformational dollars for organic depot activation. The funding for 2005-2008 is Air Mobility Command organic depot activation funding.

### What to know

According to C-17 officials capitalized assets or equipment are items that have an estimated useful life of two years or more, are not intended for sale in the ordinary course of business, are intended to be used by the Air Force or available for use by the Air Force and original acquisition cost is equal to or greater than \$100,000. Related activation resources can include technical orders, technical data, training and facilities.

Robins started off working on the C-17 by doing Analytical Condition Inspections for a couple of years. Last year, the Center moved into C-17 aircraft modifications. That work is steadily increasing; the hours are going up some time this summer as a second aircraft will be here full time.

“Our goal is to increase our capabilities so we can be a repair source for Boeing in a lot of areas,” he said. “We have planned investments in the next few years in avionics so that will grow significantly. This underscores the Air Force’s commitment to the logistics centers. The future is bright.”



Mr. Dave Silva

## C-5

Continued from 1A

Legality is one of them.

“Federal law mandates that at least half of all the Air Force depot maintenance dollars be spent at organic facilities such as Robins,” he said. “The Air Force has had trouble meeting that requirement, and if we were to contract out the C-5 workload that would make that problem much worse.”

Looking at the past year of achievement one would never guess that a few years ago the C-5 was not one of the things Robins bragged about.

“There have been some rough days,” he said. “We had some technical challenges but we made it through. I can’t say enough about the workforce and what they have accomplished.”

As for the future, Mr. Fatkin looks forward to continued improvements in parts support depot performance and increasing the aircraft availability to give the war fighter more capability and airlift than they would have otherwise.

Currently the Air Force fleet viability board is working on what will be done with the 60 C-5 A models that will be left after 14 are retired over the next two years. The options are to buy more C-17s and retire the A models or re-engine and modernize the A models.

### What to know

The C-5 Galaxy, the C-17 Globemaster III and the C-141 Starlifter are partners in Air Mobility Command’s strategic airlift concept. The aircraft carry fully equipped combat-ready military units to any point in the world on short notice, and then provide field support required to help sustain the fighting force.

# A little spring in her step



U.S. Air Force photo by Ms. Sue Sapp  
Ms. Andrea Deynzer takes advantage of the warmer temperatures Tuesday afternoon. Her 16-month-old daughter, Marianna, enjoys the stroll, too.

## PAY

Continued from 1A

### National Security Personnel System

The Secretary of Defense and the director of the Office of Personnel Management are now provided with the authority to establish a new human resources management system, including a new labor relations system, for DoD employees. The act provides the Defense secretary with the authority to establish separation and retirement incentives and additional staffing flexibilities.

### Modification of the overtime hourly pay cap

The act modifies the hourly overtime pay cap for Federal employees who are exempt from the overtime pay provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act. For exempt employees entitled to overtime pay, the hourly rate is the greater of either one and one-half times the minimum hourly rate of basic pay for GS-10 including any applicable pay adjustments, or the employee’s own hourly rate of basic pay including pay adjustments. Those changes became effective Nov. 24. The Office of Personnel

Management is amending its regulations to reflect this new provision.

### Military leave for mobilized federal civilian employees

Employees who perform full-time military service, as a result of a call or order to active duty in support of a contingency operation, are now entitled to 22 days of military leave each calendar year. An employee is entitled to the greater of his or her civilian or military pay, not both. However, an employee may choose to take annual leave instead of military leave in order to retain both civilian and military pay. The amendment applies to military service performed on or after Nov. 24, 2003.

### Senior Executive Service Pay

The act establishes a new performance-based pay system for members of the Senior Executive Service, ends locality-based comparability payments for senior executives, and changes the threshold for imposing post-employment restrictions on certain senior executives. A memorandum on the new SES pay system is available at [www.opm.gov/oca/compmemo/2003/2003-19](http://www.opm.gov/oca/compmemo/2003/2003-19).

*Editor’s Note: Air Force Personnel Center News Service contributed to this article.*

### What to know

#### What will change under NSPS?

- Some aspects of:
- Staffing (hiring, assignment, promotion and advancement, removal, reduction in force)
  - Pay administration (including certain premium pay)
  - Classification (job descriptions, grade level assignments)
  - Performance management
  - Labor management relations
  - Discipline, adverse actions, and employee appeals

#### What will NOT change under NSPS?

- Requirement to adhere to merit system principles
- Prohibited personnel practices
- Anti-discrimination rules
- Rules on leave and attendance, and travel and subsistence expenses
- Retirement, health benefits, and life insurance benefits
- Firefighter pay
- Pay for political executives
- Rules governing training
- Safety and drug abuse programs

For more information, go to [www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/overview.html](http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/overview.html)

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# Hydrogen technology drives forward

By Ms. Lanorris Askew  
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

The Air Force put its first battery dominant, hydrogen fuel cell hybrid bus into operation during a ceremony at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, Feb. 19.

The ceremony marked the culmination of months of teamwork between the Air Force industry and Hawaii’s local government. Col. David T. Nakayama, Support Equipment and Vehicle Management Directorate director, said this new advancement could fuel the future expeditionary nature of the Air Force.

“The term expeditionary refers to our ability to rapidly deploy from our fixed bases and operate for extended periods of time from forward locations,” he said. “Those locations are known as ‘bare bases’ because of their lack of fixed facilities and infrastructure.”

Since many of these locations are inaccessible by ground or sea, their re-supply must come by air.

The colonel said as a career logistician with experience at both the tactical and operational levels, one of the greatest challenges associated with supporting such bare bases is moving in sufficient amounts of traditional fossil fuels.

“Alternative power options, such as hydrogen fuel cells, offer the potential of revolutionizing how we support these forces,” he said. “If we can reduce the logistics support trail - even if just in the area of fossil fuels - we can increase the mobility and effectiveness of our forces, wherever they are deployed - be it for combat operations, humanitarian relief, or



Submitted photos

The Air Force unveils its first battery dominant, hydrogen fuel cell hybrid bus, above right, during a ceremony at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, Feb. 19. Above, participants included, from left to right, Mr. Pierre Rivard, chief executive officer, Hydrogenics; Mr. Carl Perry, chief executive officer, Enova Systems; Col. David T. Nakayama, director of Support Equipment and Vehicle Management Directorate; Mr. Kahu Kordell Kekoa, chaplain, Kamehameha Schools; Mr. Ted Liu, director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, State of Hawaii; Col. Raymond Torres, commander, 15th Airlift Wing, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii; and Sen. Daniel Inouye of Hawaii.

any other mission.”

According to Robins officials, the story of this milestone began in fiscal 2002 when the High Technology Development Corporation, or HTDC, received funding from Robins Advanced Alternative Power Technology Transformation Office, or A<sup>2</sup>PT<sup>2</sup>O, to develop a zero-emission bus with advanced chemistry

batteries to increase the range on a single charge for Hickam.

While the initial battery assessment was underway, advances in hydrogen fuel cells were reported. The decision was made to combine fiscal 2003 funds with the ongoing bus project and develop a fuel cell and battery hybrid vehicle now.

Mr. Carl Perazzola, Robins

A<sup>2</sup>PT<sup>2</sup>O chief, approved the initiative’s funding, and the lead contractor for the bus project, Enova Systems, was joined by another company, Hydrogenics, to develop the first fuel cell vehicle in the State of Hawaii.

The two companies collaborated, developed the fuel cell system, and integrated the system into the bus.



## What to know

The \$1 million alternative fuel bus is the first of its kind and will be used at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii as a shuttle for base personnel, distinguished visitors and air crews.

The bus will undergo a one-year data collection and analysis effort while operating under daily routine service conditions. The information will assist Air Force management with future procurement decisions, technology development, and demonstration decisions. Following the evaluation, the bus will continue in routine service.

## How it works

Hydrogen refueling will be accomplished initially through the use of a tube trailer connected to a compressor, storage cylinders, and dispensing unit. This trailer will be refilled locally as required. Future plans call for the establishment of a hydrogen generation and dispensing station.

The batteries will be kept charged by the fuel cell during operation, but they also can be charged by routine plug-in charging and rapid charging as is used with the first electric bus at Hickam Air Force Base.

# Airmen remember Tuskegee

By Ms. Tonya McClure  
Museum of Aviation

Even though they were considered second-class citizens, they were willing to die protecting their fellow soldiers - fellow white soldiers.

Later known as the Tuskegee Airmen, the more than 900 black pilots who graduated from Tuskegee Airfield didn’t know they were making history, but they did know what was at stake if they failed.

“We knew if we failed, the consequences would fall not just on us, but on future generations,” Mr. Val Archer, one of the original Tuskegee Airmen, said.

And succeed they did.

They went from cooks, stewards and infantry men to pilots and officers who flew more than 200 missions and never lost a plane.

In commemoration of Black History Month, the Museum of Aviation hosted Mr. Archer and other members of the Tuskegee Airmen in a forum where they relived history with fellow veterans, average citizens, military personnel and children of all ages.

The Airmen told of their experiences - the good and the bad - and their feelings of pride about their contributions to World War II.

And they spoke of the legacy they left behind.

“We wanted to fight for our

country; to fight for freedom,” Mr. Archer said.

A former flight engineer, he said that even though they were respected by the white soldiers, they still faced discrimination. It was difficult for black soldiers to receive promotions, and segregation was still an issue.

Due to the rigid pattern of racial segregation in the U.S. before and during WWII, an isolated training complex was set up near the town of Tuskegee, Ala., at Tuskegee Institute.

Over the next several years, more than 1,000 black pilots, navigators, bombardiers and crewmen were trained to participate in the conflicts of war. Many

remained in military service after the war, prompting full integration of the Air Force in 1949.

Education is the driving force behind these Airmen. They spend countless hours speaking to school groups and holding forums like the one at the Museum of Aviation.

Although the original members won’t be around forever, they hope that younger members will continue to tell the story of a proud people who wanted to defend their country.



U.S. Air Force photo by Ms. Tonya McClure

The Museum of Aviation hosted members of the Tuskegee Airmen in a forum where they relived history with fellow veterans, average citizens, military personnel and children.

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# 12 Robins Airmen assume another title: U.S. citizen

## Who took the oath

The newly naturalized Airmen from Robins are:

- Senior Airman Marvin R. Arita, 78th Civil Engineer Squadron
- Airman 1st Class Francisco Magana-Zaragoza, 78th Civil Engineer Squadron
- Staff Sgt. Cesar Vega, 78th Civil Engineer Squadron
- Airman 1st Class Percy A. Villacorta, 78th Civil Engineer Squadron
- Senior Airman Luis A. Colladdo, 78th Medical Squadron
- Senior Airman Meng J. Wu, 78th Aeromedical Squadron
- Airman 1st Class Kareem A. Edwards, 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- Airman 1st Class Nila Hay, 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron
- Airman 1st Class Pheth Lovahn, 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron
- Airman 1st Class John R. Nacinopa, 54th Combat Communications Squadron
- Senior Airman Daniel I. Reis, 52nd Combat Communication Squadron
- Senior Airman Wadkey Valcin, 78th Mission Support Squadron

By Mrs. Chris Zdrakas  
chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil

One by one, 97 military members stepped forward to receive a simple certificate - simple, but filled with promise. The certificates proclaimed them United States citizens and marked their threshold to greater opportunity.

Twelve of the 97 were Airmen from Robins, part of the first in this area's mass naturalization ceremonies made possible because of a new accelerated process for military members. A ceremony also is planned at Robins in the coming weeks.

Ms. Kathi Park, human resource assistant in the Military Personnel Flight, put hours into assembling paperwork and coordination leading up to the ceremony one week ago at Fort Benning, Ga. Mr. Eduardo Aguirre Jr., director of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services, administered the Citizen's Oath and presented certificates, assisted by Ms. Rosemary L. Melville, district director for Atlanta of the US Citizenship and Immigration Services.

"It made me feel good that I could help these people," Ms. Park said. "I have worked with them so much they are like sons and daughters to me. I received many hugs and thank yous from

those we have been able to help. One of them even sent me flowers."

Master Sgt. Jack Ladley of the 54th Combat Communications Squadron, who was there with a member of his squadron, said the ceremony was "a phenomenal event."

"To see so many young men and women - some already combat veterans - take the step to becoming U.S. citizens was incredible. The commitment these folks have already shown to this nation leaves me in awe."

Ms. Park said she found among the Airmen a sense of excitement and hope that brought her and others witnessing the ceremony a renewed sense of pride in America.

"Citizenship is too often something we take for granted," she said. "Being a part of the emotion of a naturalization ceremony changes all that. There's something about the sea of flags the new citizens are waving at the ceremony's conclusion that inspires a great deal of patriotism."

Citizenship 'a dream you have'

Airman 1st Class Francisco Magana-Zaragoza, who came to the United States five years ago from Guanajuato, Mexico, hopes to become an Air Force offi-

cer one day. Seven family members were with him to witness the ceremony, the new beginning he had hoped for since stepping on American soil.

"When you come to this country, becoming a citizen is a dream you have," he said. "This is something that is really important - special - in my life. I had tears at the ceremony, and I'll remember it always."

At 23, the single Airman has been in the Air Force for 17 months. He said he is looking forward to being in the Air Force for many years.

A big step

"There's a sense of pride when you're an American citizen," Airman 1st Class Nila Hay said. "I've been living here in the U.S. nearly my whole life, so to me, I've always been an American. After Sept. 11, 2001, I've never felt so patriotic holding an American flag.

"Joining the military gave me a chance to serve, protect and defend the country. It was a big step towards my goal. It's my way of saying 'thank you' to the men and women in uniform who went over to my country and fought for our freedom."

Airman Hay and his family came to the United States from the Philippines seeking a new life. His parents are Cambodian, his mother a full

Cambodian and his father half Chinese and half Cambodian.

Airman Hay was in the Junior ROTC program before joining the Air Force. He hopes one day to fly an F-15, or "just fly," a career path that would have been closed to him without citizenship. College and starting his own business are also in his future plans.

Expanding options

Airman 1st Class Pheth Lovahn, his parents and seven siblings came from Laos 16 years ago when he was 19.

"I waited a long time to be a citizen," he said. "I guess I felt I earned it and appreciated it a lot more than most people. I felt both relief and satisfaction at the ceremony, and although I didn't show it, I felt emotion."

Airman Lovahn said he believes the emotion is tied into being able to become a part of the future history of America.

Thought process would take longer

Senior Airman Luis A. Colladdo, who is 23 and married, is a native of the Dominican Republic and has lived in the U.S. for 17 years. He said he decided to join the Air Force because it offered educational benefits and a chance to serve his country.

"I felt naturalization was a step I needed to take ... to make the final jump into being a citizen. I'm already serving my country; I wanted to feel like part of the country," he said.

He was surprised the process didn't take longer. Ms. Park said the process formerly took more than two years, but that has been shortened to as few as 17 days in the wake of 9-11. Military members who are not citizens have limited options, she said, among them, qualifying for reenlistment, promotion to the staff sergeant level and higher, and ineligibility for assignments requiring a security clearance.



Airman 1st Class Francisco Magana-Zaragoza



Airman 1st Class Pheth Lovahn



Airman 1st Class Nila Hay

## Single but not alone



U.S. Air Force photo by Ms. Sue Sapp

Members of the Robins Single Parent Group meet at Burger King on base. Clockwise from left are: Staff Sgt. Tim Montjoy, his daughter, Bethany, Staff Sgt. Charlotte Nelson, her daughters Lessa and Amanda, and Airman 1st Class Sharon Siciliana and her daughter, Gia.

## Support group helps Robins' single parents balance work, family life

By Ms. Holly J. Logan  
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

A new group at Robins is helping single parents manage the juggling act of work and family.

Staff Sgt. Tim Montjoy, information manager for the 78th Mission Support Squadron, who has been a single parent to his 5-year-old daughter, Bethany, for two years, started the Robins Single Parent Group last month to give single parents a network of support.

"When I came to Robins from Korea, my daughter came to live with me full-time," he said. "There were little things as a single parent that people brought to my attention. I started the group so that others could get that kind of information in a support group and see there are others of us out there."

The group, opened to all base single parents and parents whose spouses are deployed, has drawn 12 members to date, offering parents information on child care and more through speakers and other activities.

The 27-year-old Atlanta native said having group members provide child care for each other through a coin-barter system helps them meet the cost of single parenthood.

"Networking with other single parents is a plus. I may have information on child care ... and they may have information on activities my child can get involved in. It's a great help."

Staff Sgt. Sharon Nelson

### What to know

The Robins Single Parent Group meets at 4 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in Suite 217 on the second floor of Building 905. All military and civilian single parents and spouses of deployed military members with children are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Tim Montjoy at 327-7338 or visit the Family Support Center link at [www.robins.af.mil](http://www.robins.af.mil).

## EM cleanup project more evident

By Ms. Lanorris Askew  
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Due to the recently announced environmental cleanup project on the southeast corner of the base, residents and employees may notice a higher volume of large vehicle traffic for the next several months.

That increase - which will happen during the soil excavation phase of the cleanup - will result from large trucks carrying soil removed from the horse pasture site near the small arms range and the Base riding stable.

Mr. Mark MacEwan, Tetra Tech program manager, said the excavation portion of the project will be a ramping up process and may not be noticed in the beginning stages, but at its peak will include between 15 and 20 trucks traveling across base daily.

Mr. Fred Otto, Environmental Management project manager, said the vehicles will enter and exit Marchbanks gate, located south of the Museum of Aviation.

After checking in at the truck gate for initial entrance, they will enter the Marchbanks gate for subsequent trips.

A gate sentry there will monitor the trucks as they enter and exit the base.

The haul route was chosen because it will have the least impact on traffic and base residents.

Mr. Otto said the soil being removed poses no airborne hazard and is not a cause for alarm.

The soil is tested to ensure it is not classified as a hazardous waste, and then trucked to a permitted solid waste landfill.

While trucks are entering and exiting, project officials ask that everyone be aware of their presence and obey posted signs.

### What to know

Historical activity at portions of the horse pasture site, located primarily within the base boundaries, resulted in soil and groundwater contamination that requires cleanup to meet state standards for environmental protection. Excavation and stabilization will be conducted during the first two years. Groundwater cleanup, which requires more complex, long-term treatment processes, is scheduled to be completed by 2009.

### The route

The haul route out to the Marchbanks gate will be Perimeter Road, Crescent Drive, 12th Street, Warner Robins Street and Marchbanks Drive. The entrance route after entering the Marchbanks gate is the reverse of exit route.

## 'People persons' put civilians in touch with resources

By Ms. Holly J. Logan  
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If you're an Air Force civilian with a personnel problem and you've come to the Customer Service Office - you've come to the right place.

Ms. Evonie Fowler and Ms. Lynn Novosel, program support clerks in the Civilian Personnel Customer Service Office, take care of just about everything.

The two spend their day helping Robins civil service employees with the Thrift Savings Plan and life insurance beneficiary changes along with a host of other things.

On average, the two answer about 40 service calls and help more than 15 walk-in customers a day.

"It's my job to help people," Ms. Fowler said. "I'm a people person. I get to meet lots of people in this job. If I can help even one person, I feel like I've done my job well."

From issuing career briefs verifying civilian employment to supplying administrative forms, Ms. Fowler, who became part of the Customer Service Office Feb. 9, said she

The BIG picture



U.S. Air Force photo by Ms. Sue Sapp

Ms. Evonie Fowler, front, and Ms. Lynn Novosel help civil service employees with personnel matters. The customer service office is located near the south entrance of Building 215.

enjoys having the opportunity to make a person's day a little better by helping meet their needs.

Ms. Novosel, who processes new Air Force civilian employees' security investigations at the base, agreed that working with people is one of perks of her job.

"I'm a very people-oriented person," she said. "I like talking to people, and I get to do that daily."



# Look past the surface to unify for a common purpose

**By Lt. Col. Paul R. Wood**  
653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron commander

“Out of many, one.”  
It’s a phrase that has been on our money for years and years, yet, what does it really mean? It speaks to the diversity of our country, an expression coined long before we ever really thought about diversity in our workplace.  
The same way an alloy is added to iron to make steel, a stronger metal, our differences make us stronger once we are bonded together toward a common goal.

The best example of what really brought this home for me was my last assignment, an expeditionary maintenance squadron overseas. That’s a group of units that has been



**Lt. Col. Paul Wood**

tasked separately but deploys together to create a maintenance unit. One day after walking through several work centers and talking with folks, I asked the Chief, “How many different organizations are in our unit?” I sat down with our unit manning document and counted PAS codes – personnelist-speak for organizational or base codes. I counted 45 different bases contributing troops to our squadron of 420. Forty-five bases coming together to make one team that was supposed to be a cohesive, functioning unit. Talk about herding cats.  
And, we couldn’t settle for just functioning, we had to be successful.

Sounds impossible, and yet it happened. It wasn’t because of my leadership or vision, but because every person was dedicated and committed to a singular cause – mission effectiveness while our wing executed Iraqi Freedom sorties – that made our team a winner. Everyone put aside their personal

baggage of being separated from family and friends, crowded living conditions, and less than optimal shop facilities to work together. Everyone kept their home unit patches on their uniforms showing where they were from, but everyone was part of the team when and where it mattered.

While three units were lead that AEF cycle, we had active, Guard, and Reserve men and women from bases I didn’t even know were out there. Young active duty troops on their first overseas deployment, old hands with more time in Saudi Arabia than Lawrence, and Guardsmen and Reservists who’d never been activated.

The beauty of it was, you could walk into a shop and never know who was from where without reading their organizational patches.

Our challenge here today is keeping that same bond – unity for a common purpose – in the forefront of what we’re doing. Turning out 23 C-5s in a year, preparing for

an Operational Readiness Inspection, implementing a new prescription service at the clinic while meeting customer needs, they’re all representative of walking into any work center around base and finding what it takes to make a collection of folks a winning team. Going a step beyond is bundling up that feeling and taking it home with us. It’s making it a part of how we get along with everyone every day, inside and outside our own work areas, and perhaps more difficult, but definitely just as important, outside the front gate to where we live, worship and play. There’s too much to do, too much to enjoy, and too many different voices for only one way to be the right way.

You could draw a great parallel from a current hit movie, “The Lord of the Rings, Return of the King”.

(OK, say it, he’s a geek.) But if you look at the group they assembled, each member was essential to the success of the mission; each one brought something to the circle only

they could. Too farfetched for your tastes...look at the Allies in World War II. While we were a close ally with Great Britain, the Soviet Union joined the Allies, and their efforts on the eastern front drew critical components of the Third Reich away, hastening an Allied victory in Europe. Did they have other motives? Sure. Was it a long lasting alliance? Definitely not.

Bottom line, though, is when the goal is clear, we needed to look beyond our circle of familiars, beyond those who look, think, and act just like we do, for help, for answers, for a new approach to solving problems. And if you think about it, maybe the Russians weren’t so different. Less than 50 years after their Great Patriotic War, we saw that they wanted just what we wanted – freedom, opportunity, and basic human rights.

Maybe that’s what diversity is all about – looking past the surface to see that we all really want the same things after all.

# More than military heritage, saluting supports the mission



**Chief Master Sgt. Sam R. Mitchell**

**By Chief Master Sgt. Sam R. Mitchell**  
78th Air Base Wing superintendent

Perhaps the most basic of all military courtesies is the salute.  
It dates back as far as medieval times, when knights would lift their face shields to be recognized by a fellow approaching knight. By defi-

nition, saluting is a common act of courtesy between two military members. We perform this courtesy as a show of respect for senior ranking officers and some civilian positions. But, while this tradition and show of respect is certainly an important part of our military heritage, saluting goes far beyond this – it supports the mission.

Saluting, as a military


courtesy, is key to maintaining discipline and structure within your unit, base and service. It promotes respect for the chain of command and enhances esprit de corps and morale among the ranks. Saluting is as integral to our mission as maintaining core values or completing our jobs in a professional manner. And, like these other forms of discipline, avoiding or

ignoring our responsibility undermines the chain of command and endangers the Air Force mission. It’s not difficult to imagine how ineffective and chaotic our military would be without the structure and discipline that is provided by having and using a chain of command. No military, regardless of how technologically or numerically superior, could

win wars in such an environment. In essence, saluting is a fundamental part of what makes us effective and professional, and not merely mercenaries.

So, rather than looking the other way when a staff car or senior ranking officer passes, take pride in your heritage and do your part for the mission. Stand tall and salute proudly.

**Commander's Action Line**



**Col. Tom Smoot**  
Commander,  
78th Air Base Wing

*Action Line is an open door program for Robins Air Force Base personnel to ask questions, make suggestions or give kudos to make Robins a better place to work and live.*

*Please remember that the most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible. This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes.*

*To contact the Action Line, call 926-2886 day or night, or for quickest response e-mail to one of the following addresses: If sending from a military e-mail system select, Robins Commanders Action Line from the Global Address List. If sending from a commercial e-mail account (AOL, AT+T, CompuServe, Earthlink, etc.), use [action.line@robins.af.mil](mailto:action.line@robins.af.mil).*

*Readers can also access Action Line by visiting the Robins AFB homepage at <https://www.mil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm>. Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response.*

*Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Rev-Up. Anonymous Action Lines will not be processed.*

Security Forces.....	327-3445
Services Division.....	926-5491
EEO Office.....	926-2131
Employee Relations...	926-5802
Military Pay.....	926-3777
IDEA.....	926-2536
Base hospital.....	327-7850
Civil engineering.....	926-5657
Public Affairs.....	926-2137
Safety Office.....	926-6271
Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline.....	926-2393
Housing Office.....	926-3776

## Safety inspections aren’t worth the wait

Sir, I was at the gate during the safety inspection Jan. 23. The traffic at Gate 2 was backed up to Robins Parkway. The wait was from 20-40 minutes depending on where you got in line. I couldn’t get in line and had to exit at Gate 14. The wait there was 20 minutes as well. I’ve discussed this problem with my fellow employees and all agree this is not how to prevent drunk driving. Police need to set up in the area where alcohol is being consumed. That would not interfere with normal traffic movement. Continuing to operate like this is an unnecessary hardship on the men and women who are working long hours in support of the war fighter. We feel we are being singled out for harassment to attack a problem, not the cause. Thank you for any consideration in this matter.

**Commander replies:** In our effort to provide a safe environment for Robins Air Force Base and the surrounding communities, the 78th Security Forces Squadron along with Office of Special Investigations, Warner Robins Police

Department and Houston County Sheriff’s Department, conducted a Driving Under the Influence and safety checkpoint. The SFS works long hours, too. Although it may have seemed like harassment to you, they were in fact, deterring one of our biggest problems on this installation – drunk driving. In 2003 there were 63 DUI incidents reported to Security Forces. Twenty of those incidents occurred on the installation, and 43 were off base. I ask for your patience in the future with these checkpoints and that you help spread the word of “Zero Tolerance” on the base and in our communities.

## Safely accessing the base from Gate 2

Saturday morning I watched five different vehicles almost get hit just outside the main gate while they were waiting to enter the base. The cause is plain to see: too many vehicles entering a single, insufficiently manned gate. Spare me the rhetoric. I already know about the future plans for the gate. I have one simple question. What is the base going to do this Saturday to ensure the safety of our most

important resources, its people?

**Commander replies:** In its effort to provide quality service to Robins Air Force Base while ensuring adequate protection, the 78th Security Forces Squadron constantly balances the needs of the base populace with security requirements and worldwide deployments. To accommodate the influx of personnel, the current gate schedule has been altered. A second lane has been opened to facilitate the traffic at Gate 2 (the main gate) Monday - Saturday at 4:30 a.m. We’ll maintain this effort to assist with congestion at the main gate. The biggest safety hazard at these intersections is due to motorists disregarding the traffic signals and not ensuring the intersection is clear prior to crossing it regardless of the signal. “Georgia Code 40-6-205 (Obstructing Intersection) prohibits drivers from entering an intersection unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the intersection to accommodate the vehicle he is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles or pedestrians, notwithstanding any traffic-control signal indication to proceed.”

## Remember to slow down



### How the points add up

Accumulating 12 traffic violation points within a year may cause drivers to lose base driving privileges for up to 60 days. Speeding violation points are based on the number of miles over the posted speed limit.	10 miles = 3 points
	11 - 15 miles = 4 points
	16 - 20 miles = 5 points
	21+ miles = 6 points

Source: AFI 31-204




Airmen Against Drunk Drivers is a 24-hour-service that provides rides to those who have consumed alcohol and need transportation home. The program is run by volunteers from across base, and those who use the service aren’t subject to adverse action.  
**To request a ride, call: 335-5218, 335-5238 and 335-5236.**

## Robins DUI tracker

Robins has adopted a zero tolerance policy for drinking and driving. In addition to an incentive for no DUIs and putting up signs to keep the message in drivers’ minds as they leave the base, the Rev-Up will run weekly numbers of DUIs.

March: 0 March 2003: 4 Year to date: 13 2003: 63 Number of days since last DUI: 6



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# DoD security specialist course to help Robins

By Ms. Holly J. Logan  
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

Robins will soon be offering the Department of Defense Security Specialist Course, saving the government money and employees the hassle that goes along with temporary duty assignments.

According to Ms. Lynn Dalrymple - security specialist for the 78th Security Forces Squadron's Administrative and Reports Flight who manages Robins' Information Security Program - the cost for one person to attend the three-week course, usually offered at the Defense Security Service Academy in Linthicum, Md., is about \$3,500.

Forty-four Robins employees and six from other bases worldwide are scheduled to take the class Saturday through April 2.

But, rather than having to pay TDY

expenses for those 44 people at the price of more than \$150,000, the 78th Security Forces Squadron and Combat Electronic Systems Directorate will only have to pay the TDY expense for three of the academy's instructors to come to Robins - about \$6,000.

Ms. Virginia Dyer, a single mother of three and a security specialist in LS here, said offering the course locally will make learning more convenient.

"I hope it will give me ideas about new security plans that can be developed for my directorate and a better, overall understanding of security," she said.

Ms. Dalrymple said the course will allow security specialists to sharpen their skills.

"It's a very intense course," she said. "They'll get lots of tools they can use in their own (security) programs. I really think it's going to enhance and show the importance of what our security managers do."

## ROBINS BULLETIN BOARD

### Lost and found

A wallet and two sets of keys have been found. To identify lost property, call Mr. Genis Hall, found property custodian, 78th Security Forces Investigations, at 926-5271.

### Thrift shop open Saturday

The Thrift Shop will be open Saturday, 10-1 p.m.

### Robins Awards Banquet

The annual Robins Awards Banquet, hosted by Brig. Gen. Mike Collings, will be March 12, 6 p.m., Century of Flight Hangar, Museum of Aviation. Commanders, supervisors, families and friends are welcome to come and recognize our annual award nominees. Senior staff should send R.S.V.P.s to Ms. Sherry Dawson, WR-ALC/CCX; all others should R.S.V.P. with your unit first sergeant by today. For more information, contact WR-ALC/CCC at 926-0792.

### 'Jazz at Six' series

The Museum of Aviation Foundation's "Jazz at Six" series will feature Ms. Gwen Hughes, a songwriter, singer and piano stylist who describes herself as someone "caught somewhere between jazz, pop and big band," March 16 at the Museum of Aviation from 6 - 8 p.m. There will be a cash bar and snacks. Admission will be \$7 per person, and Museum of Aviation Society of Eagles members will get in free. For more information, call Mr. Bob Dubiel at 923-6600 or e-mail [bdubiel@museumofaviation.org](mailto:bdubiel@museumofaviation.org). The next series performance will be April 22

and will feature the Monty Cole Trio.

### Officers' Hail and Farewell

There will be a standup Officers' Hail and Farewell, conducted by Brig. Gen. Mike Collings, Center commander, March 19 at 4 p.m. in the Officers' Club ballroom. Spouses are invited to attend the event and fellowship, which follows. For more information, call 2nd Lt. Robert E. Stapleton at 926-3511 or e-mail at [stapleton@robins.af.mil](mailto:stapleton@robins.af.mil).

### Officers' Spouses Club luncheon

The Officers' Spouses Club March luncheon will be March 25 at 10 a.m.

### AF seeks former Lowry employees

The Air Force Real Property Agency wants to interview people who were employed or stationed at the former Lowry Air Force Base in Denver, Colo.

The AFRPA is conducting the interviews to ensure all environmental conditions on the base have been investigated. If you worked at Lowry and want to volunteer, call 1 (800)725-7617 or e-mail the AFRPA public affairs officer at [doug.karas@afropa.pentagon.af.mil](mailto:doug.karas@afropa.pentagon.af.mil).

### North Carolina Air National Guard

The North Carolina Air National Guard is looking for Air Force members who are completing Palace Chase applications for the Air Force fiscal 2004 Force Shaping Program. If any member is planning to move back to North Carolina after leaving

the Air Force under this program, contact us at 1(800) 354-6933. One of our recruiters will be happy to help you with the Palace Chase application.

### Firing range reminders

The 78th Security Forces Squadron conducts live fire training at the base firing range, located on the northeast side of the base. Robins' firing ranges are adjacent to the horse stables and off-limits to all persons, unless scheduled for training or official business. Nearby housing residents should warn children of the hazards of playing near the firing ranges. The ranges are clearly marked with signs, red flags and streamers during weapons firing

### Zero Overpricing Program

The Zero Overpricing Program aims to reduce overpricing in Air Force acquisitions. If the current catalog price for an item is incorrect and may reflect an overprice to the government submit an AF Form 1046 to WR-ALC/PKPB, Attn: ZOP Monitor, 235 Byron St., Robins AFB, GA 31098. Partnership benefits are recognition and a cash award. For more information, call Ms. Cassandra Tharpe at 926-7118 or visit <http://pkcc.robins.af.mil/pr/pkpb.htm>.

### Museum art exhibit

Georgia artist Mr. Marc Stewart's exhibit, "A Celebration of Heroes," will be on display through March 12 in the Eagle Building art gallery at the Museum of Aviation. The exhibit features over 30 general aviation themed pieces.



U.S. Air Force file photo by Ms. Sue Sapp

The annual Camellia Gardens Memorial Service will be in the garden across from the Officers' Club. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will take place at the Base Chapel.

# Camellia Gardens Memorial Service set for May 27

By Mrs. Chris Zdrakas  
[chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil](mailto:chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil)

### What to know

The annual Camellia Gardens Memorial Service that pays tribute to deceased members of Team Robins Plus is slated for May 27 at 10 a.m. in garden across from the Officers' Club.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will take place at the Base Chapel.

The service is a 28-year tradition rooted in a partnership between Robins, the Middle Georgia Camellia Society, and the Warner Robins Chamber of Commerce.

The three first teamed in 1976 to establish and dedicate the garden, which memorializes the dead by celebrating life.

At the garden's entrance, a brick and mortar wall displays the names of 1,255 who have been previously

The annual Camellia Gardens Memorial Service will be May 27 at 10 a.m. in garden across from the Officers' Club. Ms. Diane Gross, project officer, is accepting submissions for people to be memorialized this year. Honorees can be civilian or military members.

honored.

The ceremony is a project of the 78th Air Base Wing's Administrative and Compliance Office.

Ms. Diane Gross, project officer, is accepting submissions for people to be memorialized this year. Honorees can be civilian or military members.

To honor someone, the following information should be sent to Ms. Gross no later than May 7: Complete name and, if military, rank of the person to be honored – If military,

designate active-duty or retired and branch of service; birth and death dates;

reproducible photo - preferably black and white, and at least 2 by 3 inches; family-related information, such as name, address, and phone number of next of kin; name, address, and telephone number of the person or organization nominating the honoree; and military unit or organization honoree was assigned and predominantly responsible to while at Robins.

There is no fee; however, contributions in the name of the honoree are accepted. For information about the ceremony, call Ms. Gross at 926-6203 or e-mail [diane.gross@robins.af.mil](mailto:diane.gross@robins.af.mil).

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## Scouts throw fiesta



Submitted photos  
Cub Scout Pack 220 celebrates scouting's birthday during the Blue and Gold Banquet with a Mexican theme. From left to right, scouts are, front row, Alex Besemer, Jacob Sweeney, Bradly Lemon, Caleb Tisher, Jacob Penta and Matthew Davis; second row, Matt Litchfield, Jeffrey Clark, Kedric Lemon, Christopher Rodieck, Chase Lambert and Tyler Mize.

## Pack 220 enjoys birthday activites

Pinewood Derby cars took center stage as Scouts in Pack 220 vied for fastest car bragging rights Feb. 27. The winners for each category were Jacob Sweeney, Tigers; Alex Besemer, Wolves; Jeremy Oyler, Bears; and Matt Litchfield, Webelos.

Following the Pinewood Derby, the Pack celebrated scouting’s birthday during the Blue and Gold Banquet.

The banquet had a Mexican Fiesta theme, complete with a Mexican Village and piñatas.

The following Scouts were awarded their scouting badges:

Tiger Badge: **Jacob Sweeney, Bradly Lemon, Caleb Tisher, Jacob Penta** and **Matthew Davis**

Wolf Badge: **Alex Besemer**

Bear Badge: **Jeffrey Clark, Chase Lambert, Kedric Lemon, Tyler Mize** and **Christopher Rodieck**

Webelos Badge: **Matt Litchfield**

Pack 220 is chartered by the 116th Air



The Pinewood Derby winners are, front row, Alex Besemer and Jacob Sweeney; and back row, Matt Litchfield and Jeremy Oyler.

Control Wing and provides scouting opportunities for boys in first through fifth grade.

For more information, call Ms. Moira Rodieck, Pack Cubmaster, at 918-0176.

– From staff reports

# Fire safety tips

Robins Fire Department

**Seconds count.** A smoke detector and a prearranged, practiced home escape plan can get your family out alive and safely.

**Install and maintain smoke detectors.** Smoke and fires produce carbon monoxide, or CO, along with other hazardous by-products, which can make you drowsy. Smoke detectors provide an audible warning of a potential fire and provide extra time for you and the family to escape safely. Test your smoke detector every year. Replace batteries twice a year. A good rule of thumb is to change your batteries when you change to daylight savings time.

**Have an escape plan.** Make sure you include all doors, windows, hallways, and stairways and have at least two exits from every room. Select a meeting place outside your home and mark it on the plan. Practice the plan with your family and have practice drills at least twice a year and practice day and night situations.

**Get out and stay out.** If you smell smoke, see fire or hear the smoke detector, follow your escape plan. Get low to avoid breathing toxic gases and hot air. Feel the doors with the back of your hand, if the doors feel hot, don’t open it. Use your alternate means of escape. If the door is cool, and no signs of fire or smoke, follow your escape plan closing all doors behind you. Never use elevators during a fire.

**Call for help.** When your family has gathered at the meeting place, call the fire department. When calling for help, stay calm, and speak slowly and clearly. Give your

name and address. Stay on the line until the emergency alarm room operator tells you to hang up.

If you have any questions, call the fire prevention office at 926-2145.

lenn  
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babyland  
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let’s talk  
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armed  
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